

**Consideration of amendment of nonrule policy document, Information Bulletin #59, to establish free sport fishing days for 2016 and 2017; Administrative Cause No. 15-15-089D**

The Division of Fish and Wildlife is requesting an amendment to the free sport fishing days non-rule policy to establish the dates for 2016 and 2017. We are requesting the third Saturday in April, the week before the stream trout season opens, as well as the third Saturday in May, which is Kids to Parks Day and Armed Forces Day. The first weekend in June matches up with the National Free Fishing Weekend. These dates also correspond with Go FishIN Family Learn to Fish Workshops scheduled for each year.

Natural Resources Commission  
Information Bulletin #59 (~~Third~~ **Fourth** Amendment)  
~~October 1, 2013~~ **August 1, 2015**

Subject: Free Sport Fishing Days (IC 14-22-18-1)

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide the dates for free sport fishing days in ~~2014~~ **2016** and ~~2015~~ **2017**, as authorized by IC 14-22-18-1.

**2. Background**

According to IC 14-22-18-1, the director of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), with the approval of the Natural Resources Commission, may designate up to four days a year as free sport fishing days. The free sport fishing days can be any four days of the year and be consecutive or nonconsecutive. The DNR usually designates two of these dates as the first full weekend in June when people are starting vacations and school is out. These two free sport fishing days have traditionally been designated on a single weekend and associated with the first full weekend of National Fishing and Boating Week sponsored by the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation. The other two dates are designed to fit in with the Go FishIN Family Learn to Fish Workshops, which are held on the third Saturday of the month. The date in April will be a week before the opening of the stream trout season, and the date in May will also coincide with **Kids to Parks Day and Armed Forces Day**.

3. Dates

The Free Sport Fishing Days for ~~2014~~ **2016** and ~~2015~~ **2017** are as follows:

~~April 19, 2014~~  
~~May 17, 2014~~  
~~June 7 and 8, 2014~~  
~~April 18, 2015~~  
~~May 16, 2015~~  
~~June 6 and 7, 2015~~  
**April 16, 2016**  
**May 21, 2016**  
**June 4 and 5, 2016**  
**April 15, 2017**  
**May 20, 2017**  
**June 3 and 4, 2017**